

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 173051
ORIGIN SS-15

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INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY 2029

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173051

EXDIS, PLEASE PASS TO ASST SEC. MAYNES

FOL RPT USUN NEW YORK 2343 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN,
DAR ES SALAAM, GABORONE, LAGOS, LONDON, LUSAKA, MAPUTO,
OTTAWA, PARIS, PRETORIA DTD 22 JUL 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2343

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SYG-MCHENRY TELECON

REF: USUN 2330

1. SYG WALDHEIM CALLED AMB. MCHENRY TODAY TO STATE THAT HE
HAD TELEPHONED AHTISAARI, UN COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA, AND
ASKED HIM TO RETURN TO NEW YORK ON TUESDAY, JULY 26, AND
TO PROVIDE WHATEVER ADVICE AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE
SECRETARIAT WITH REGARD TO UN MACHINERY WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILA-
BLE FOR A POSSIBLE NAMIBIA SETTLEMENT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT
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AHTISAARI WAS TO BE THE SPECIAL CONTACT BUT THAT FARAH AND
OTHER PERSONNEL WERE ALSO AVAILABLE. IN ADDITION, HE
SUGGESTED THAT HIS AUSTRIAN PERSONAL ASSISTANT, FERDINAND
MAYRHOFER, WOULD BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH WALDHEIM DURING
HIS ABSENCE AND THAT WE SHOULD FEEL FREE TO CONTACT MAYRHOFER.

2. WALDHEIM SAID THAT HE COULD NOT SPEAK AS CANDIDLY AS

HE WOULD HAVE WISHED IN THE MEETING WITH THE FIVE
JULY 21. HIS PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT APPROACH USED ON NAMIBIA
WAS SOUND AND THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO GET OVER THE REMAINING
HURDLES. HE KNEW AHTISAARI TO BE POSITIVE ON THE
INITIATIVE AND THAT AHTISAARI SAW A CHANCE OF A SETTLEMENT.
IN WALDHEIM'S OPINION AHTISAARI WAS THE MAN FOR THE JOB,
BOTH IN DEVELOPING UN MACHINERY AND IN THE ROLE OF A SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE IN VIEW OF HIS EXCELLENT CONTACTS WITH THE
FRONT-LINE STATES AND HIS GENUINE ACCEPTABILITY TO SWAPO
AND OTHER NATIONALIST GROUPS.

3. WALDHEIM STATED THAT HE HAD NOT HEARD FROM SOUTH AFRICA
REGARDING THE ACCEPTABILITY OF AHTISAARI AS THE SPECIAL
REPRESENTATIVE FOR NAMIBIA. HE RECALLED THAT HE HAD RAISED
AHTISAARI'S NAME WITH SAG FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA DURING
LATTER'S RECENT VISIT TO NEW YORK. BOTHA'S RESPONSE WAS NOT
NEGATIVE. HE UNDERTOOK TO RAISE THE QUESTION WITH PRIME
MINISTER VORSTER.

4. MCHENRY THANKED THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR MAKING UN
PERSONNEL AVAILABLE. HE UNDERSTOOD DIFFICULTIES WHICH
MIGHT BE PRESENTED IF THE SYG WERE TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR
UN MACHINERY ON HIS OWN AND PERHAPS THE APPROACH SUGGESTED
BY THE SYG MIGHT MEET BOTH OUR OBJECTIVES.
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Message Attributes

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